DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 185 305 CE 024 640

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TITLE Signs, Symbols and Signals. Book Five. Project Drive.
INSTITUTION Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13, Lancaster, Pa.
SPONS AGENCY Office of Education (DHEW), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE 79
NOTE 29p.: For related documents see CE 024 635-643.
AVAILABLE FROM Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 Adult Education, Box 5026, Lancaster, PA 17601 ($10.00 for set of nine booklets)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Adult Basic Education; Basic Skills; Certification; *Driver Education; *English for Special Purposes; Functional Literacy; Language Handicaps; Language Skills; Learning Activities; Learning Modules; *Reading Difficulties; *Reading Improvement; *Second Language Instruction; Signs; Spanish Speaking; *Traffic Control; Traffic Safety; Vietnamese
IDENTIFIERS Project Drive

ABSTRACT

This Project Drive booklet titled Signs, Symbols, and Signals is one of eight booklets designed for intermediate-level English-as-a-second-language students and low-level adult basic education/basic reading students. The goal of the booklet is to aid the student in developing the oral and sight vocabulary necessary for a basic driver training program. The booklet contains exercises designed either for individual instruction or group work. Appended material includes supplementary exercises, a pretest and posttest, and a word list of important vocabulary presented in each unit of the booklet. (LRA)

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# PROJECT DRIVE

## SIGNS

## SYMBOLS and SIGNALS

BOOK FIVE

1979

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SIGNS, SYMBOLS, AND SIGNALS

The Three "S's" of

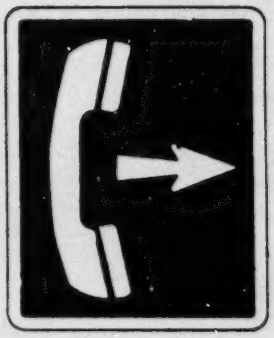
Traffic Information

Can you "read" these *signs*? What do they mean to you? Being able to read signs is an important part of safe driving. A sign gives us information by using a picture, numbers, or a few words. But, a sign can only give information to those people who can read it.

EXERCISE 1:

1. A sign gives us information by using a _____, _____, or a few _____.

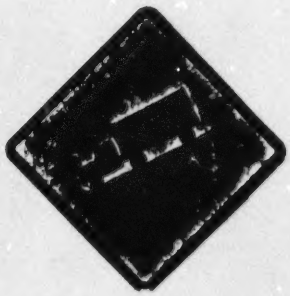
2. What do these picture signs mean?



1.

2.

Traffic signs help to keep us safe. They tell us of the laws and regulations of the road.



Sometimes they also warn of dangers ahead.

Traffic signs have the same shapes and colors all over the United States. This helps you identify them quickly and know right away what they mean.

There are four types of signs:

1. *regulatory* - tell what a driver can and cannot do.
2. *warning* - tell of specific road conditions, road changes, and traffic conditions.
3. *guide* - tell information about routes, cities, points of interest, and services.
4. *construction and maintenance* - warn temporary hazards ahead.

EXERCISE 2: Is the sentence *true* (T) or *false* (F)?

1. T F Traffic signs help keep us safe.

2. T F Traffic signs are different all over the United States.

3. T F A regulatory sign shows what a driver can and cannot do.

4. T F A warning sign warns of temporary hazards ahead due to road repair.

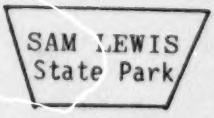
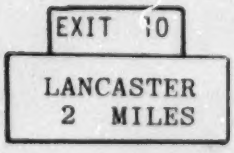
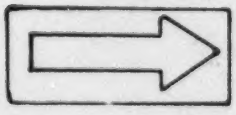
5. T F A guide sign tells of laws of the road.

EXERCISE 3: Write a sentence to answer the following questions.

1. Why are traffic signs the same all over the United States?

2. Name the four types of traffic signs.

Remember - road signs have the same shapes and colors all over the United States. Let's look at the special colors on the signs.

| EXAMPLE | COLOR | TYPE | EXPLANATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Red | Regulatory | Red signs indicate stopping or *prohibitive* actions. |
| | White | Regulatory | White signs indicate limits of speed, movement, parking, etc. |
| | Yellow | Warning | Yellow signs indicate caution, curves, intersections, changes in width, traffic, crossings, etc. |
|   | Brown | Guide | Brown signs show recreation and scenic areas. |
| | Blue | Guide | Blue signs show services for the driver. |
|   | Green | Guide | Green signs show directions. |
|  | Orange | Construction and Maintenance | Orange signs warn of construction and maintenance on the road ahead. |

EXERCISE 4: Draw a line from the sign color with what it indicates.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Red | a. | construction or maintenance |
| 2. | White | b. | recreation and scenic area |
| 3. | Yellow | c. | limits of speed, movement, parking |
| 4. | Brown | d. | directions |
| 5. | Blue | e. | stopping and other prohibitive actions |
| 6. | Green | f. | services for the driver |
| 7. | Orange | g. | caution |

EXERCISE 5: What colors can I be? Name the possible colors of each of the four types of signs.

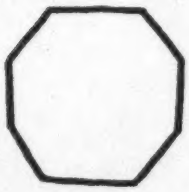
1. Regulatory

2. Warning

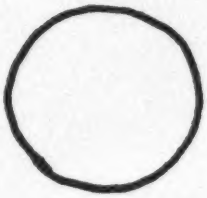
3. Guide

4. Construction and Maintenance

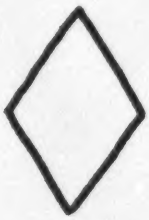
Signs also give us information by their shapes. Let's look at the shapes used for traffic signs and read what each of the shapes mean:



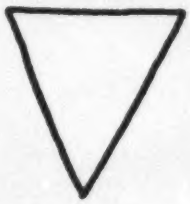
OCTAGON
(eight sides)=
STOP!



ROUND=
railroad
crossing



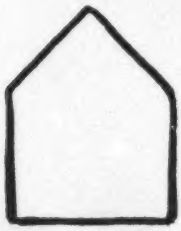
DIAMOND=
be careful!



TRIANGLE=
yield
right-of-way

RECTANGLE=
information

RECTANGLE=
regulates traffic



PENTAGON
(five sides)=
people may
be walking

PENNANT=
you may
not pass

EXERCISE 6: Circle the sign shapes hidden in the word square below.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| r | e | c | t | a | n | g | l | e | o |
| o | c | p | e | n | t | a | g | o | n |
| u | i | e | r | o | r | z | b | c | h |
| n | r | n | s | q | i | a | r | t | e |
| d | c | n | o | t | a | n | e | a | x |
| d | i | a | m | o | n | d | x | g | a |
| s | e | n | r | i | g | o | l | o | g |
| t | o | t | o | l | l | w | p | n | o |
| s | q | u | a | l | e | n | a | n | q |

EXERCISE 7: What does my shape mean? Write the name of the shape and what it means.

_____
_____

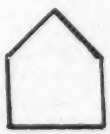
_____
_____

_____
_____

_____
_____

_____
_____

_____
_____

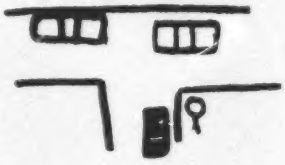


_____
_____

_____
_____

In order to read a sign, you must understand what its words and pictures mean. Some signs are easy to read:

means stop. At a stop sign, you must look both ways.

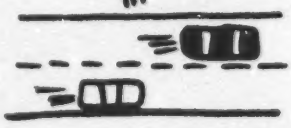


To read other signs, you must understand the meaning of some special terms.

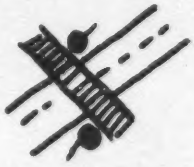
means you must *yield* the right-of-way. A yield sign helps drivers decide who should go first. At a yield sign you must slow down and look left and right. Other cars may go before you.

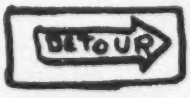
means that other cars will be moving into your road from a road on the right. (They will have to yield).

means the traffic can move only in one direction.



means a railroad crossing where the railroad tracks go across the road.






means the road is closed and you must follow the arrow to go another way.

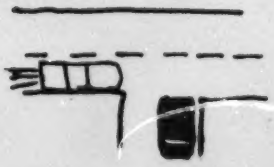
EXERCISE 8: Draw a line to the correct sign for each of the road situations below:

1.

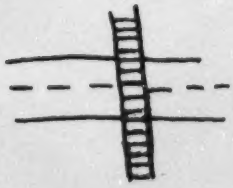
2.

3.

4.



5.



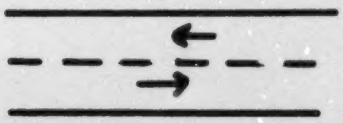
6.

Some signs tell you about the roadway and its laws:

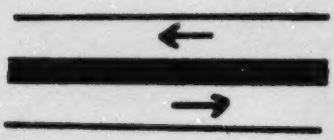
And others warn you to be careful for special reasons:

All these traffic signs have important meanings. They will help you be a safe driver. Be able to read them and understand what they mean. Check your Driver's Manual for a listing of the signs and their meanings.

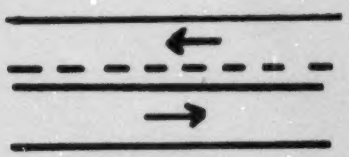
There is another place to find traffic information in addition to the signs along the road. That place is on the roadway, the *pavement*. When you look at a road you see that it has lines down the middle. Sometimes the lines are white. Sometimes they are yellow. Sometimes they are solid. Sometimes they are broken. The line in the middle of the road gives you important information about how you may drive and pass on that road. There are four types of lines.



Single Broken Yellow Lines - two way traffic with passing permitted.



Double Solid Yellow Line - two way traffic with passing not permitted for either lane.



Solid Yellow Line and Broken Yellow Line - two way traffic with passing permitted on the lane with the broken line, but not permitted on the other lane.

Broken White Line - one way traffic with passing permitted.

EXERCISE 9: Draw a picture of the lines for each of the following situations:

1. two way traffic passing permitted

2. one way traffic passing permitted

3. two way traffic, passing not permitted

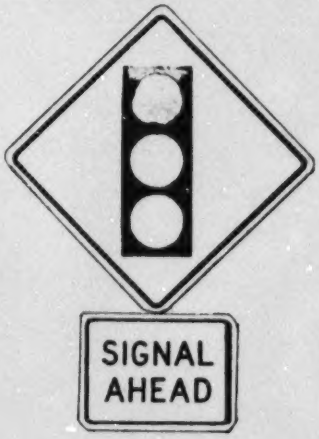
4. two way traffic, passing permitted for one lane only

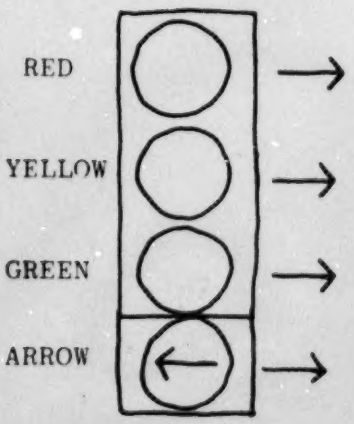
EXERCISE 10: Let's Talk!

1. In what two ways can traffic information be given to the driver? Give some examples of each.

2. You have to be able to read in order to be a safe driver. Explain.

A third place where a driver finds traffic information is from traffic signals. A *traffic signal* (light) is placed at a busy intersection to control the movement of traffic. It is important to know what each color means.



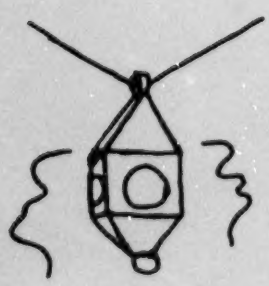

STOP (but you may turn right after stopping when it is not prohibited)

Do not enter the intersection.

Go (but be careful).

You can turn only in the direction the arrow points.

Lights come on in this order: green - yellow - red - green.



Sometimes you might see a single flashing light. A flashing red light is like a STOP sign. It means stop, look both ways, then go when safe. A flashing yellow light means slow down. There may be danger, so be ready to stop.

EXERCISE 11: Fill in the blank with the missing word.

1. A traffic _____ (light) is placed at busy intersections.

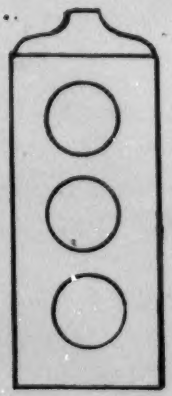
2. A red light means _____.

3. A yellow light means _____ enter the intersection.

4. A green light means _____.

5. A flashing _____ light is like a STOP sign.

EXERCISE 12: What color am I? Write the name of the correct color beside each light in the traffic signal.

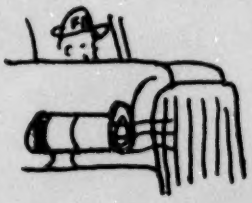


_____

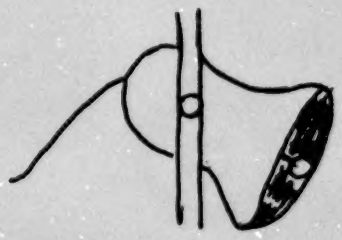
_____

_____

"Flashing Light"



"Siren"



"Bell"

A fourth place where the driver receives information is from *emergency signals*. These signals tell you that someone is in a hurry. They mean that you must pull to the side of the road and stop. Emergency signals are on ambulances, police cars, and fire trucks.

People can also give you traffic information. Sometimes you will see a traffic policeman directing the movement of traffic. But more often the people giving you information will be other drivers. They will tell you when they are stopping, turning, and changing lanes by using their turn signals and brake lights. Be a careful, thoughtful driver and tell others of your movements well in advance. And don't forget - drive defensively!

EXERCISE 13: Answer the following questions:

1. What do emergency signals tell you?

2. What must you do when you hear an emergency signal?

3. Who uses emergency signals?

EXERCISE 14: What are these signs saying? Match each symbol with its message by writing the correct number in each square.

1. Road Narrows
2. No Left Turn
3. Road Forks
4. Rest Area
5. Railroad Crossing
6. Winding Road
7. Steep Hill
8. Slippery
9. No U Turn
10. Road Curves Right
11. Left Intersection
12. Restaurant

PRETEST - SIGNS

Is the sentence...

1. T F Being able to read signs is an important part of safe driving.

2. T F Traffic signs are different in each state.

3. T F A regulatory sign tells what a driver can and cannot do.

4. T F A warning sign tells about road repair.

5. T F A guide sign tells you the distance to the next towns.

6. T F A construction and maintenance sign tells you of temporary roadway hazards.

7. T F The color of a traffic sign gives you information.

8. T F A sign with this shape (octagonal) always means railroad crossing.

9. T F A yield sign is for the drivers on the main highway, where a smaller road is intersecting.

10. T F Signs are not the only way for drivers to find out traffic information.

11. T F The top light on a traffic light is red.

12. T F A flashing yellow light means stop.

13. T F When you drive, you must give information to other drivers.

14. T F means road narrows.

15. T F means rest area.

16. T F means no left turn.

17. T F means steep hill.

18. T F means no U turn.

19. T F means restaurant.

20. T F means road curves right.

21. T F means slippery.

22. T F means road forks.

23. T F

means railroad crossing.

24. T F means winding road.

25. T F means left intersection.

POST-TEST - SIGNS

I. True or False....

1. T F Traffic signs are different all over the United States.

2. T F A regulatory sign shows what a driver can and cannot do.

3. T F A warning sign warns of road repairs.

4. T F A guide sign tells of laws of the road.

5. T F Warning signs are white.

6. T F A brown sign tells you about a park.

7. T F A pennant sign means no passing.

8. T F Merge is the same as yield.

II. Choose....

9. Traffic signs help to keep us _____.
   A. safety
   B. safe
   C. safely.

10. Red signs are _____ signs.
   A. Regulatory
   B. Warning
   C. Guide

11. A round sign means_____.
   A. be careful
   B. pedestrians crossing.
   C. railroad crossing.

12. Yield right-of-way means you must _____.

A. stop

B. slow down

C. go faster

13. A broken white line means _____.

A. passing is permitted for two way traffic.

B. passing is permitted for one way traffic.

C. passing is not permitted.

14. A traffic light is placed at a busy _____.

A. interspersion

B. introspection

C. intersection

15. The yellow light is _____ the red and green.

A. between

B. above

C. below

16. An emergency signal on your car is the _____.

A. siren

B. horn

C. bell

17. When you hear an emergency signal, you should _____.

A. go faster to get out of the way.

B. stop immediately in your lane.

C. pull over to the side of the road.

III. Fill in the blank

18. A sign gives us information by using a _____, numbers, or a few words.

19. A _____ sign tells about routes, cities, points of interest, and services.

20. Traffic signs all over the United States have the same _____ and colors.

21. A yellow sign is a _____ sign.

22. A sign in the shape of a pentagon means _____.

23. A _____ sign tells you the road is closed and you must follow the arrow to go another way.

24. A double solid _____ line means two-way traffic with no passing.

25. A flashing red light means _____.

DO YOU KNOW THESE TERMS?

Page 1:

1. sign = gives information by using a picture, numbers, or a few words.

señal de tráfico
Dấu hiệu, (bằng số hoặc bằng hình ảnh.)

Page 3:

2. regulatory = tells what a driver can and cannot do.

señal regulatoria
Sự chỉ dẫn thường xuyên.

3. warning = tells of specific road conditions, road changes, and traffic conditions.

señal de peligro
Báo rõ về tình trạng đường phố, Điều kiện lưu thông

4. guide = tells information about routes, cities, points of interest, and services.

una guía
Sự hướng dẫn, chỉ dẫn.

5. construction and maintenance = warns of temporary hazards ahead.

construcción y mantenimiento
Sửa chữa và bảo trì.

Page 5:

6. prohibitive = not permitting.

prohibido
Sự cấm đoán, không được phép.

Page 7:

7. octagon = eight sides.
octágono
8 cạnh.

8. pentagon = five sides.
pentágono
5 cạnh.

9. pennant = flag
banderola
Cờ hiệu (của phu lục lộ hoặc nhân viên điện thoại.)

Page 8:

10. yield = other cars have the right to go before you.
Ceder el paso
Dấu hiệu phải nhường quyền ưu tiên cho xe khác

11. merge = other cars are moving into your roadway.
se une el tráfico
(Sự trộn lẫn với xe khác) Có xe khác đi chung vào hàng và hướng của mình.

12. detour = the road is closed, you must follow the arrow to go another way.
desvío
Đường bị đóng phải đi vòng theo lối khác.

Page 12:

13. pavement = the road surface.
pavimento
Bề mặt đường.

Page 14:

14. traffic signal = traffic light, red light.

señal de tráfico

Đèn lưu thông, đèn đỏ.

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15. emergency signals = the flashing lights, sirens, bells mean you must pull over to the side of the road and stop.

señales de emergencia

Đèn chớp tắt, đèn báo của xe cứu thương hoặc cảnh sát, ta phải tấp vào lề đường trong trường hợp này.